

736 (WU); Forest Grove, *Jos. W. Marsh* (WU); Myrtle Creek Canyon, Douglas Co., April 7, 1927, *J. W. Thompson* 2049 (WU); Summit of the Siskiyou Mts., south of Ashland, April 11, 1927, *J. W. Thompson* 2189 (WU).

IDAHO: The species is commonly credited to this state. No evidence to confirm this exists in the U. S. National Herbarium, the New York Botanical Garden, or any of the herbaria cited. The only possible specimen seen is one from Clear Water, Oregon, *Rev. Mr. Spalding* (G). The plant has not been found since near Fort Lapwai or Spalding, Idaho, where Mr. Spalding lived and collected most of the specimens. However, he made several trips to Walla Walla to visit his friend and fellow missionary Whitman. It seems likely that Spalding found the plant on one of these journeys, as the plant is extremely abundant and showy in the vicinity of Walla Walla and along the Touchet River. It is unlikely that if this attractive little plant grew in the region of Lapwai, that it would have escaped the attention of the considerable number of botanists who have lived and worked in Pullman, Wash., or Moscow, Idaho. *Balsamorhiza Careyana* Gray presents a similar case. Dr. Gray described it from a Spalding specimen, labeled "Sandy plains, Clear Water, on the Kooskooskie." This big showy Balsamroot does not now grow nearer than the mouth of the Palouse River, about a hundred miles to the westward. All of the specimens collected by the Rev. Mr. Spalding were given the uniform printed label, "Clearwater, Oregon."

CALIFORNIA: common on barren spots, Kneeland Prairie, altitude 2500 ft., May 4, 1913, *J. P. Tracy* 4048 (G); Red Mt., Mendocino Co., May 21-28, 1902, *Alice Eastwood* (G); Surprise Valley, N. E. Cal. *Lemmon* (G); Camp Blaisdell, 1879, *Dr. W. Matthews* (G); Lassen Co., June 1878, *Mrs. R. M. Austin* (G); abundant, miles of plains and hillside yellow with it, from April 1, Yreka, Siskiyou Co., April 18, 1876, *E. L. Greene* 703 (G); Mariposa, April 1888, *J. W. Congdon* 501 (G).

STATE COLLEGE OF WASHINGTON, PULLMAN, WASHINGTON.

BOOK REVIEWS

Common Wild Flowers of Pennsylvania*

Having previously acquired an expert knowledge of the flora of Western Pennsylvania, Dr. Gress became State Botanist in 1920 and has since become well qualified to make a judicious selection of the representative common wild flowers of the State. The "Common Wild Flowers of Pennsylvania" is an attractively printed, paper bound book of 121 pages, illustrated by a plate of plant and flower parts and by 61 half-tones of flowers

* Common Wild Flowers of Pennsylvania. Ernest M. Gress, Ph.D. Times Tribune Co., Altoona, Pa. 121 pp., 5½ by 8 in., paper bound. (75 cts. postpaid.)

or flowering plants. Most of the photographs were taken by Attorney Geo. B. Parker, of Pittsburgh, an enthusiastic flower photographer whose exquisitely colored lantern-slides are well known around western Pennsylvania.

Dr. Gress intentionally makes the book "as simple and free from technical terms as scientific accuracy will permit" and it should be interesting and useful to high-school pupils, scouts, and to the general non-technical public. General directions are given about collecting, pressing, mounting, and studying plants; the general structure and life-cycle of the plant is simply discussed, and then follow the descriptions of the various species. In connection with the descriptions and pictures of the plants are included accounts of insect visitors, economic uses, medicinal or poisonous properties, peculiarities of growth, habitat, or flower structure—in fact, just the interesting things that most people want to know about, after they find out what the plant is.

O. E. JENNINGS

Durand's Field Book of Common Ferns*

No group of plants better repays study than the ferns. A small group, one can become familiar with nearly all the species of any region in one summer. Succeeding years will add a few rare species or various new forms of familiar species. To help make a hobby of ferns or just to scrape acquaintance with them, there has recently appeared a new volume of Putnam's Field Books. This has been made as simple as possible,—possibly too simple for anyone who already knows something of the ferns. Only nine scientific terms are used, including midvein, spore-case, fruit-dot and habitat. Sporangium and sorus might have been used instead of the corresponding terms without making the book too technical and certainly the indusia should have been described, even if under some other name.

Fifty species of ferns are described and illustrated. There is a beautiful set of habitat pictures from photographs of the ferns as they grew, often with a wild flower of some kind at the side. In addition there are habitat photographs of four of

*Field Book of Common Ferns, Herbert Durand. 219 pages. 1928. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.50.